



COMICS

22

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# SCOOBY APOCALYPSE



ALSO IN  
THIS ISSUE:

THE  
ADVENTURE  
CONTINUES WITH

**SECRET  
SQUIRREL!**

GIFFEN  
DeMATTEIS  
WAGNER  
OWENS  
DORAN  
HI-FI

**RIDE  
OR  
DIE!**



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IN AN EPIC QUEST FOR TRUTH.

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FEBRUARY

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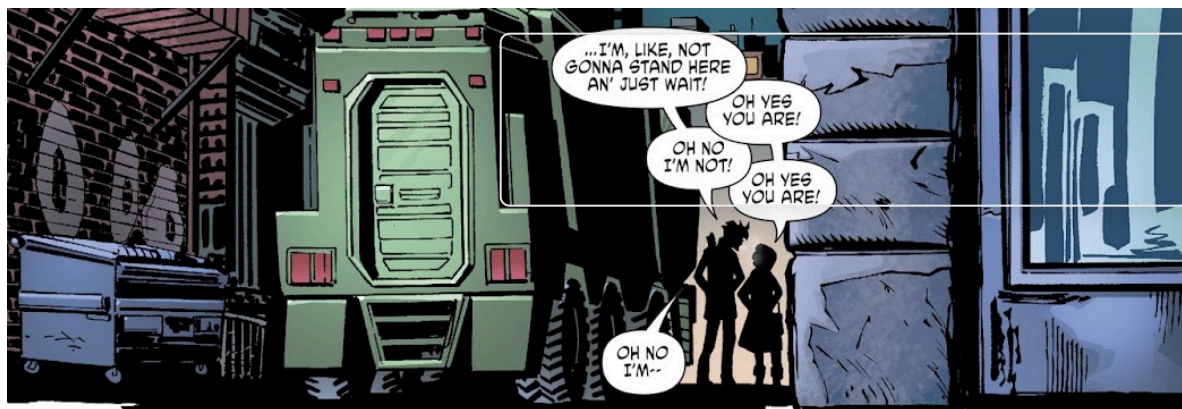
# SCOOBY APOCALYPSE



GIFFEN  
DeMATTEIS  
WAGNER  
OWENS  
DORAN  
HI-FI

W





...I'M, LIKE, NOT GONNA STAND HERE AN' JUST WAIT!

OH YES YOU ARE!

OH NO I'M NOT!

OH YES YOU ARE!

OH NO I'M--



YOU DO **REALIZE** THAT YOU SOUND LIKE A COUPLE OF TWO-YEAR-OLDS...?

OH NO WE DON'T!

OKAY. MAYBE WE DO.

BUT **DAPHNE** AND **FRED** ARE TRAPPED IN THAT MALL...SURROUNDED BY BLOODTHIRSTY THINGEES.



WE JUST CAN'T STAND AROUND DOING NOTHING!

BELIEVE ME, **SHAGGY**, I'D LOVE NOTHING MORE THAN TO RIDE IN THERE ON MY WHITE HORSE AND SAVE THEM, BUT--

YOU'VE GOT A HORSE?

I WAS SPEAKING METAPHORICALLY.



RIGHT.

LOOK, **VELMA**, IF YOU DON'T WANNA GO IN, LET ME TAKE **SCOOPY** AN--

RET ME AT 'EM!

NO.



IF YOU'RE DETERMINED TO MOUNT A RESCUE, THEN YOU AND I WILL GO.

EVEN IF THAT MEANS...**GAG**... CRAWLING THROUGH THE SEWER ACCESS PIPES TO GET THERE.

**CLIFFY**, OF COURSE, WILL REMAIN BEHIND WITH **DAISY** AND **SCOOPY-DOO**. I WILL NOT SUBJECT THAT CHILD TO ANY MORE DANGER.



ASIDE FROM THE DANGER OUT HERE, YOU MEAN? THERE **ARE** OTHER CREATURES SWARMING ALL AROUND US.

ONE THING I'VE LEARNED ABOUT YOU THESE PAST MONTHS, **DAZE**: YOU KNOW HOW T'TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

I APPRECIATE THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, **SHAGGY**, EVEN IF I FEAR IT'S MISPLACED.

**SIGH**: BUT NOBODY SAID SURVIVING THE APOCALYPSE--

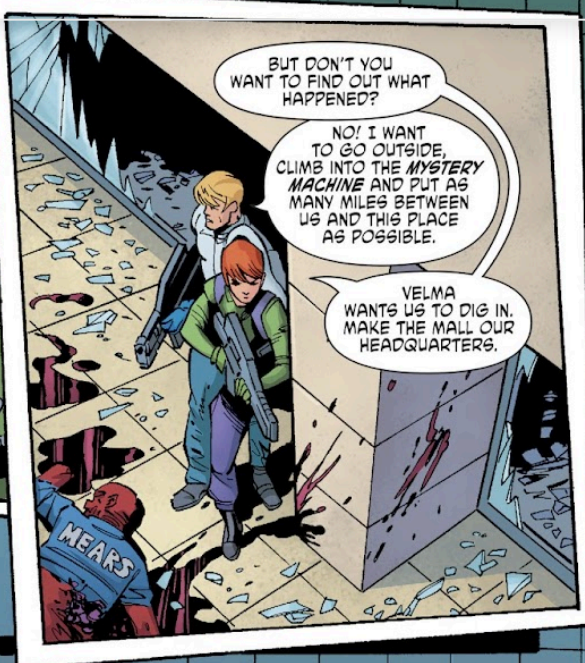




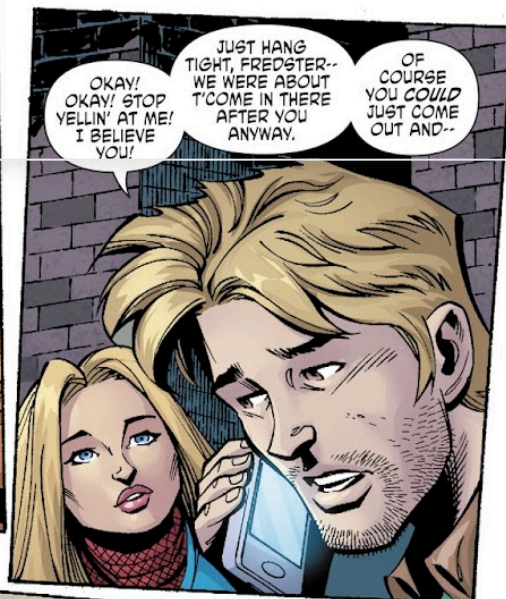














"--LET'S GO  
SHOPPIN'!"

# CJNickel



MAYBE FRED'S RIGHT.  
MAYBE WE *SHOULD* GET OUT  
OF HERE. BUT, REALLY...

...WHERE  
IS THERE  
TO GO?



MUCH AS I HATE TO  
ADMIT IT, VELMA'S PLAN  
IS OUR BEST OPTION. AT  
LEAST IF WE PUT DOWN  
ROOTS HERE, FORTIFY  
THE MALL, WE CAN HAVE  
A PROTECTED BASE  
OF OPERATIONS.

SOMEPLACE  
SECURE  
TO RETURN  
TO AFTER  
WE'VE GONE  
OUT HUNTING  
FOR OTHERS  
LIKE US.

WHO KNOWS? MAYBE ONE DAY  
THIS WHOLE PLACE WILL BE FILLED  
WITH SURVIVORS. THE FIRST SEEDS  
OF A REBORN HUMAN RACE.



BUT IN ORDER  
TO DO THAT WE'VE  
GOT TO MAKE SURE  
THE MALL IS CLEAR.  
AND IN ORDER  
TO DO *THAT*...

...WE'VE GOT TO BE  
SURE BOTH OF THESE  
ARMIES REALLY *HAVE*  
BEEN WIPED OUT.



AH, WHO AM I KIDDING? VELMA MAY BE A GENIUS, BUT HER PLAN IS IDIOTIC. AND SO ARE MY DREAMS OF A MAGICALLY RESURRECTED HUMAN RACE.

CHANCES ARE WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE--IF NOT TODAY, THEN SOON.

GIVEN WHAT WE'VE FACED SINCE THE PLAGUE BROKE OUT, IT'S A MIRACLE WE'VE HELD OUT *THIS* LONG.

BUT HAVING PLANS (HOWEVER STUPID), HAVING DREAMS (HOWEVER NAIVE)...

...AT LEAST GIVES US SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR.

AND MAYBE THAT'S WHAT THOSE CREATURES WERE LOOKING FOR WITH THEIR WAR. I GUESS EVEN MINDLESS MONSTERS NEED A SENSE OF PURPOSE.

I MEAN, LOOK AT THIS STORE: THEY'VE TURNED IT INTO A KIND OF A FORTRESS. EXACTLY WHAT *WE'RE* PLANNING TO DO.

SO MAYBE WE'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT AFTER--

**cJNickel**

SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT? SOUNDS LIKE SOME KIND OF GUTTURAL CHANTING.

WHICH MEANS THEY'RE NOT ALL DEAD.

SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP

AND WE'RE NOT ALONE IN HERE.

I'VE GOTTA WARN FRED!

SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP





WHAT IS THAT?  
SOUNDS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM "MEARS" AND--

FRED!



C'MON! WE'VE GOTTA GO!

NOW!

BUT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO STAY! WHY ARE--

STOP ASKING STUPID QUESTIONS--

--AND RUN!



SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP

WAIT. ARE THEY CHANTING THE WORD-- "SHOP"?

WHAT THEY'RE CHANTING ISN'T IMPORTANT--

--THE FACT THAT THERE'S A "THEY" IS!  
BUT IF WE'RE NOT ALONE HERE, THEN SHAGGY, VELMA AND SCOOBY ARE WALKING RIGHT INTO--

SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP  
SHHHHHPPPP



THEY SHOULDN'T BE WALKING INTO ANYTHING!

I ORDERED THEM TO STAY OUTSIDE!



THEY SAID THEY'D ONLY WAIT FIFTEEN MINUTES AND THEN COME AFTER US!

WELL, IT'S ONLY BEEN ABOUT TEN MINUTES, SO WE SHOULD HAVE A LITTLE TIME BEFORE--

CHANTING'S GETTING CLOSER!

THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY!

THEY'RE NOT ON THEIR WAY, DAPH--

SHHHPP  
SHHHPP  
SHHHPP







SHOP!  
SHOP!  
SHOP!  
SHOP TILL  
YOU DROP!

SHOP! SHOP! SHOP!  
SHOP TILL  
YOU DROP!

WOW. IT'S  
LIKE THE WORST  
BLACK FRIDAY  
SALE EVER!

THAT'S NOT  
FUNNY!

I THOUGHT  
IT WAS MILDLY  
AMUSING.

IT'S  
NOT GONNA  
BE SO AMUSING  
WHEN WE ALL GET  
SLAUGHTERED!

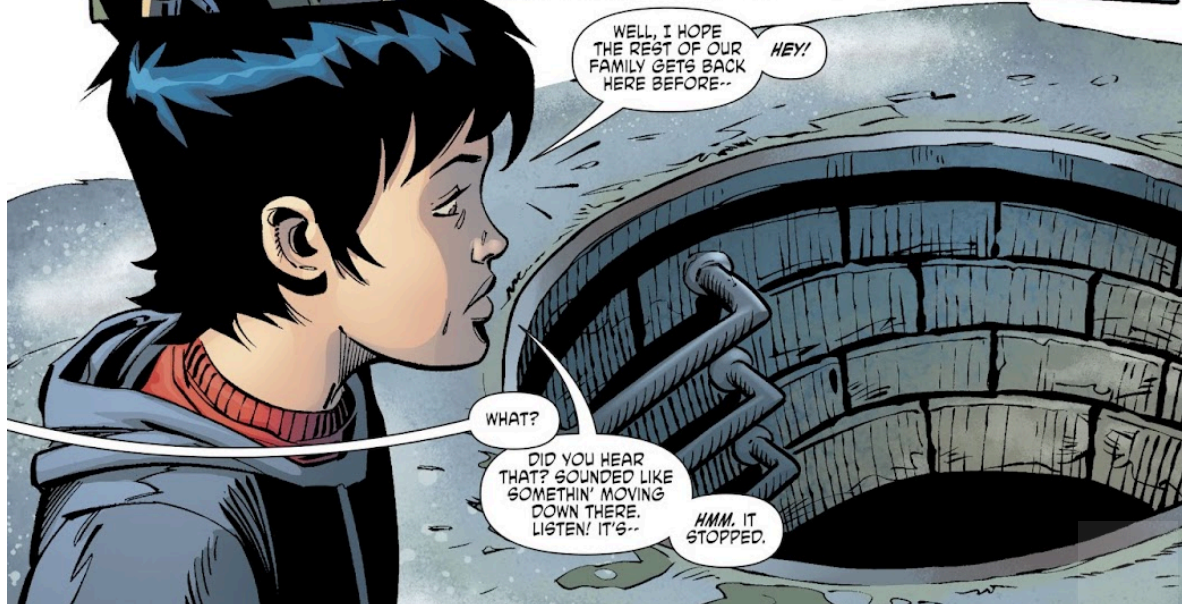
NOW, C'MON--  
WE'VE GOTTA HEAD  
VELMA OFF BEFORE  
IT'S TOO LATE!













"I MUST'VE  
IMAGINED IT."



"YOU BROKE  
MY NOSE!"





IT'S NOT  
BROKEN.

CRACKED,  
MAYBE, BUT NOT  
BROKEN.

YOU COULD  
AT LEAST  
APOLOGIZE.

FOR  
WHAT?



SLAMMIN'  
THAT DOOR  
INTO MY  
FACE!

A) WE WERE  
RUNNING FOR OUR  
LIVES. B) WE DIDN'T  
KNOW YOU WERE  
THERE.

AND C) YOU  
WOULDN'T HAVE  
BEEN THERE AT  
ALL IF YOU'D  
FOLLOWED MY  
ORDERS!

YOU'RE  
NOT THE  
BOSS OF  
ME!

OH, WELL,  
THAT'S  
MATURE!

CAN WE  
STOP THIS  
PLEASE--



--AND  
FOCUS ON  
THE PROBLEM  
AT HAND?

YOU MEAN  
THE FACT THAT  
THERE ARE TWO  
MONSTER ARMIES  
OUT THERE--

--THAT SEEM  
TO BE FIGHTING OVER  
WHICH DEPARTMENT  
STORE HAS THE  
LOWEST PRICES?



I SUSPECT  
THAT THEY WERE  
TRANSFORMED BY  
THE NANITES WHILE  
THEY WERE  
SHOPPING  
HERE--



--AND THAT SOME  
DIM MEMORY OF THEIR  
CONSUMERIST BEHAVIOR  
LIVES ON IN THIS LUDICROUS,  
YET DEADLY,  
CONFLICT.

I DON'T CARE  
WHAT CAUSED IT.  
LET'S JUST CLEAR  
OUT BEFORE--

"CLEAR  
OUT"? NO. WHAT  
WE SHOULD DO--  
IS *STAY*.

"STAY"?  
HOW HARD DID  
YOU HIT YOUR  
HEAD WHEN I RAN  
INTO YOU?



THE HENRY  
HUDSON MALL MAY  
BE THE PERFECT  
PLACE FOR US TO  
ESTABLISH OUR  
ENCAMPMENT.

WE  
CLEARLY HAVE  
VERY DIFFERENT  
DEFINITIONS OF  
"PERFECT."

HEAR  
ME OUT.

FROM WHAT  
I UNDERSTAND,  
THESE TWO ARMIES  
ARE INTENT UPON  
SLAUGHTERING  
EACH OTHER.

YEAH.  
SO?



WHAT IF WE  
COULD USE THEIR  
WAR TO OUR  
ADVANTAGE?

THERE *IS*  
NO ADVANTAGE  
HERE!

OH, DAPHNE--  
YOU NEED TO  
EXPAND YOUR  
VISION. SEE  
THE BIGGER  
PICTURE.





DO YOU THINK YOU COULD BE JUST A *LITTLE* MORE CONDESCENDING?

I'M NOT TRYING TO CONDESCEND. I'M TRYING TO EXPLAIN.

GIVE HER A CHANCE, DAPH.

FINE. EXPLAIN AWAY.

THE CREATURES OUTSIDE ARE AFRAID TO ENTER THE MALL--



--NO DOUBT BECAUSE OF THE SAVAGE CONFLICT RAGING WITHIN.

THAT PROVIDES US WITH THE SAFE HAVEN WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR.

HOW ARE WE SAFE WITH "MEARS" AND "NICKEL" OUT THERE, TEARING EACH OTHER APART?

OPERATIVE WORDS: "EACH OTHER."



BASED ON WHAT YOU'VE WITNESSED SO FAR, THEY SEEM TO CLUSTER IN THEIR RESPECTIVE STORES, ONLY EMERGING TO FIGHT IN THE MAIN COURTYARD.

AS LONG AS WE STEER CLEAR OF THEM, WE'VE GOT A VAST SPACE TO WORK WITH AS WE TRANSFORM THIS PLACE INTO A FORTRESS...

WELL, THERE ARE CERTAINLY PLENTY OF SUPPLIES HERE.

YOU'RE NOT BUYING THIS, ARE YOU?



"THINK ABOUT IT. THOSE TWO ARMIES WILL EVENTUALLY KILL EACH OTHER OFF.

"BUT THE CREATURES OUTSIDE WON'T KNOW IT, SO THEY'LL STAY AWAY. AT LEAST FOR A WHILE.

"GIVING US TIME TO SECURE THE MALL AND BUILD UP OUR FORTIFICATIONS."



GREAT. NOW YOU'RE BOTH TALKING LIKE ESCAPED LUNATICS.

WE'VE ALL BEEN LOST FOR A LONG TIME. VICTIMS OF FATE INSTEAD OF MASTERS OF OUR OWN DESTINY.

WE NEED FOCUS. PURPOSE. WE'VE NEEDED IT FOR A LONG TIME.

AND THIS MALL JUST MIGHT PROVIDE IT.

YEAH. OR IT *COULD* TURN OUT T'BE A MASSIVE TOMB--

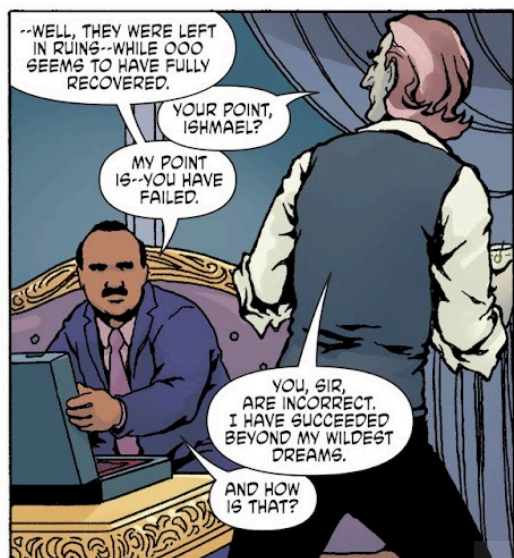


--THAT WE'LL NEVER ESCAPE FROM.











ANY IDIOT CAN KILL. BUT THE WOLF HUNTS. TOYS WITH HIS PREY. KEEPS HIM LOOKING OVER HIS SHOULDER. BUILDS UP HIS FEAR UNTIL IT BECOMES BLIND TERROR.

AND THEN--AND ONLY THEN-- DOES THE WOLF STRIKE.

THE KILLICOPTER...THE SLAUGHTERATIONS... THESE WERE ALL PART OF A CAREFULLY CONSIDERED PLAN.

ALL WELL AND GOOD.

BUT THE *BRAINWAVE PROJECT* HAS BEEN AN EXPENSIVE ONE SO FAR--AND YOUR "CAREFULLY CONSIDERED PLAN" HAS PUT AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN ON THE COMMITTEE'S FINANCES.

**FEIN, FINGEROTH & HOOPLEMACHER**  
Accountants

Invoice for assassination attempts

- 1 Killicopter: \$5,400,000.00
- 2 Slaughterations: \$9,750,000.00
- 4 Weapons of Mass Destruction: \$4,350,000.00

SHOULD AGENT 000 ESCAPE YOU YET AGAIN--YOU WILL REPAY THIS EXTRAVAGANT SUM IN FULL.

I ASSURE YOU, THAT WILL NOT HAPPEN. THE VERY FACT THAT YOU MENTION IT OFFENDS ME.

IT IS NOT THE COMMITTEE'S INTENTION TO OFFEND. WE SIMPLY WISH TO SEE THE FRUITS OF OUR INVESTMENT.

AND YOU WILL.

WHEN?

SOON.

I'M AFRAID THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

ARE YOU THREATENING ME, ISHMAEL? ARE YOU AWARE--

THAT YOU COULD EXECUTE ME IN A MATTER OF SECONDS? PUT A BULLET THROUGH MY BRAIN...SLICE MY THROAT--

--BEFORE I COULD EVEN THINK TO RAISE A HAND IN MY OWN DEFENSE?

WE ARE WELL AWARE OF YOUR SKILLS, MR. WOLF. THAT, OF COURSE, IS WHY WE HIRED YOU.

WE SIMPLY THINK IT'S TIME YOU STOPPED EMPLOYING UNDERLINGS TO STALK AND UNNERVE YOUR PREY--

AND MOVED IN FOR THE KILL MYSELF?

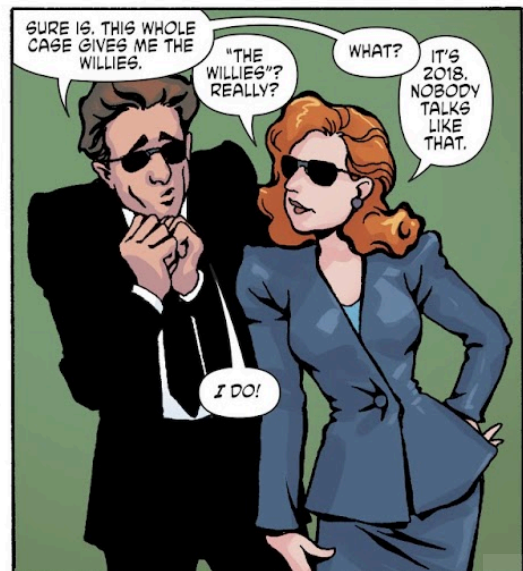
PRECISELY.

AND THAT IS WHAT I WILL DO... TOMORROW. AS FOR TONIGHT--

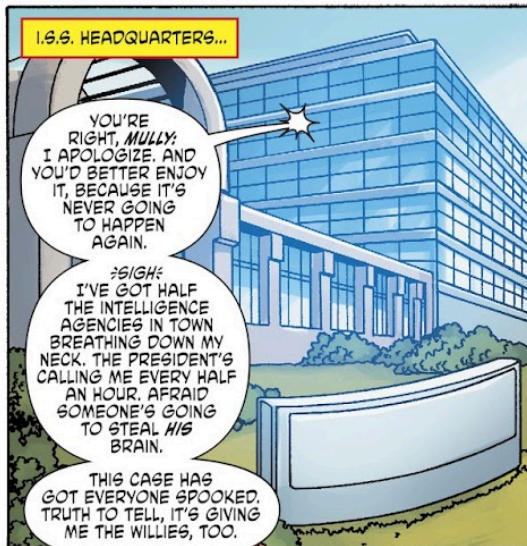
--I INTEND TO DRINK MYSELF INTO QUASI-OBIVION WHILE LISTENING TO ORSON WELLES' STIRRING 1937 RADIO PRODUCTION OF *LES MISERABLES*.

AS FOR YOU, SIR, I EXPECT YOU TO LEAVE MY HOUSE. NOW.













## SECRET SQUIRREL! in "TOLLBOOTH TERROR!"

Giffen &  
DeMatteis writers  
Colleen Doran artist  
Hi-Fi colors

Travis Lanham letters  
Diego Lopez asst. editor  
Harvey Richards editor Marie Javins trained assassin







THE DC UNIVERSE JUST GOT BIGGER!



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PHILIP TAN    RYAN SOOK





## A **DC** ALL ACCESS interview with writer JUSTIN JORDAN

**DC ALL ACCESS:** What makes this character different from more traditional characters in the DC Universe?  
**JUSTIN JORDAN:** He's different because the character of Brimstone incorporates a lot of horror elements. He's much closer to an Etrigan than a Superman, and that's actually something we don't see a huge amount of in the DC Universe. His powers are not a blessing, they're a curse, and I think that's fairly distinct. He's a character who wants to try and do good with a power that is fundamentally evil.

**DCAA:** What aspect of your personality did you inject into this character?

**JJ:** I think there's a lot of my personality in the backstory of Joe, Brimstone's human form. Joe's home and situation are based very heavily on rural Pennsylvania, former coal country, which is where I grew up. So when Joe looks around, he sees a town that was prosperous when he was a kid, yet is dying and forgotten as an adult. That's all stuff I've seen and felt.

**DCAA:** Why is working on this project exciting?  
**JJ:** Philip and I are getting to create something brand-new for the DC Universe, and that is always amazing. If we're lucky, people will be using Brimstone 20 or 40 years from now. But also, the book is giving us a chance to explore parts of the DC Universe we don't see a lot. We get to see what it's like outside Gotham, Metropolis or Central City. Brimstone's setting is a place where superheroes are this faraway thing that happens to other people.

**DCAA:** Was it more fun creating this new character vs. working on the iconic DC characters?

**JJ:** I don't think one is more fun than the other, but creating a whole new cast of characters has definitely been super fun. There's a whole new mythology that goes into

THE CURSE OF BRIMSTONE, and that kind of world-building is super exciting.

**DCAA:** Why should a reader pick up this book (in 12 words or less)?

**JJ:** Superhero horror with awesome Philip Tan art.

**DCAA:** What was the collaboration process with artist Philip Tan like?

**JJ:** It's been amazing. Philip just keeps throwing out these sketches and character concepts that are unbelievably awesome. Plus, we're on the same wavelength storytelling-wise, which is always a great feeling. I am hoping we get a very long run on the series.

**SPECIAL  
VERTICAL  
DOUBLE-GATEFOLD  
COVER**



**ISSUE #1 ON SALE  
APRIL 4**



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# SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...  
THIS MONSTER!"

